

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Confirmation No.: 9700

Edward G. SHIFRIN et al.

Date: March 2, 2007

Serial No.: 10/561,354

Group Art Unit: 3733

Filed: November 27, 2001

Examiner: Jerry L. CUMBERLEDGE

For: STERNAL CLOSURE SYSTEM, METHOD AND APPARATUS THEREFOR

VIA EFS-WEB
 Mail Stop Amendment
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT/SUBMISSION

Sir:

This is a response to the Office Action mailed October 2, 2006 in the above-identified application. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

FEE CALCULATION

Any additional fee required has been calculated as follows:

If checked, "Small Entity" status is claimed.

NO. CLAIMS AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	EXTRA PRESENT	RATE	ADDIT. FEE
TOTAL 34	MINUS 32	* = 2	X (\$25 SE or \$50)	\$50.00
INDEP. 1	MINUS 3	** = 0	X (\$100 SE or \$200)	\$0
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM				\$0
* not less than 20	** not less than 3		TOTAL	\$50.00

If any additional payment is required, credit card payment in the amount of \$50.00 is submitted via EFS-WEB.

In the event the actual fee is greater than the payment submitted or is inadvertently not enclosed or if any additional fee during the prosecution of this application is not paid, the Patent Office is authorized to charge the underpayment to Deposit Account No. 15-0700.

CONTINGENT EXTENSION REQUEST

If this communication is filed after the shortened statutory time period had elapsed and no separate Petition is enclosed, the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks is petitioned, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), to extend the time for filing a response to the outstanding Office Action by the number of months which will avoid abandonment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.135. The fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 should be charged to our Deposit Account No. 15-0700.

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS

1. If checked, an abstract (an amended abstract) is submitted herewith.
2. If checked, amendment(s) to the drawings are submitted herewith.
3. If checked, amendment(s) to the specification are submitted herewith.
4. If checked, amendment(s) to the claims are submitted herewith.